| •  | \                                |
|----|--|
| 5  | used to simulate system response, the response file including at least |
| 6  | message marker associated with each message, at least one response     |
| 7  | each message, and an end-of-response marker associated with each 1     |
| 8  | simulating a response to the system message by outp                    |
| 9  | stored in association with a stored message matching the received m    |
| 10 | received message matching a message stored in the response file, wh    |
| 11 | two responses being stored in association with a message, the at leas  |
| 12 | sequentially output in response to sequential receipt of the message.  |
| 1  | 2. The simulation process of claim 1, wherein the simu                 |
| 2  | occurs within the system.  |

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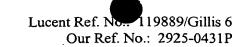
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| 2 | 1. | A simulation process, comprising: |
|---|----|-----------------------------------|
| 3 | \  | receiving a message from a system |
|   | 17 |                                   |

comparing the received message to information stored in a response file used to simulate system response, the response file including at least one message, a message marker associated with each message, at least one response associated with each message, and an end-of-response marker associated with each response; and simulating a response to the system message by outputting a response stored in association with a stored message matching the received message, upon the received message matching a message stored in the response file, wherein upon at least two responses being stored in association with a message, the at least two responses are

- The simulation process of claim 1, wherein the simulation process 2. occurs within the system.
- The simulation process of claim 1, wherein the simulation process 3. occurs within a device separate from, but operatively connected to the system.
- 4. The simulation process of claim \, wherein the response file includes at least one autonomous response, wherein the autonomous response is output a predetermined time after simulation begins, irrespective of a received message.
- The simulation process of claim 1, wherein the response file includes at 5. least one autonomous response, wherein the autonomous response is periodically output irrespective of a received message.
- The simulation process of claim 1, wherein the response file includes at 1 6. least two different messages, each associated with at least one response. 2
  - The simulation process of claim 1, further comprising: 7.

| storing a record of a received message, wherein upon a message being                        |
|---|
| received a second time, either a second response stored in association with the received    |
| message is output, or the first response is again output if no second response is stored in |
| association with the received message.  |
| 8. The simulation process of claim 7, wherein sequential responses stored                   |
| in the response file in association with a common message are sequentially output upon      |
| successive receipt of the common message.   |
| 9. The simulation process of claim 1, wherein sequential responses stored                   |
| in the response file in association with a common message are sequentially output upon      |
| successive receipt of the common message.   |
| 10. The simulation process of claim 1, wherein the response file is created                 |
| using a log file of the system.   |
| 11. A simulator, comprising:  |
| a memory, adapted to store a response file, the response file being used                    |
| to simulate system response and including at least one message, a message marker            |
| associated with each message, at least one response associated with each message, and       |
| an end-of-response marker associated with each response;                                    |
| a comparator, adapted to compare a message received from a system to                        |
| information stored in the response file to determine whether or not the received message    |
| matches a message stored in the response file; and  |
| an output device adapted to simulate a response to the system message,                      |
| upon determining that a received message matches a message stored in the response           |
| file, by outputting a response stored in association with the matching stored message,      |
| wherein upon at least two responses being stored in association with a message, the at      |



| 13 | least two resp  | onses are sequentially output in response to sequential receipt of the       |
|----|-----------------|--|
| 14 | message.        |  |
| 1  | 12.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein the simulator is located within the       |
| 2  | system.         |  |
| 1  | 13.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein the simulator is separate from but        |
| 2  | operatively co  | onnected to the system.  |
| 1  | 14.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein the response file, stored in the          |
| 2  | memory, incl    | udes at least one autonomous response, wherein the autonomous response       |
| 3  | is output a pro | edetermined time after simulation begins, irrespective of a received         |
| 4  | message.        |  |
| 1  | 15.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein the response file, stored in the          |
| 2  | memory, incl    | udes at least one autonomous response which is periodically output,          |
| 3  | irrespective o  | of a received message.   |
| 7  | 16.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein the response file, stored in the          |
| 2  | memory, incl    | udes at least two different messages, each associated with at least one      |
| 3  | response.       |  |
| 1  | 17.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein the memory further stores a record        |
| 2  | of a received   | message, wherein upon a message being received a second time, either a       |
| 3  | second respo    | nse stored in association with the received message is output, or the first  |
| 4  | response is a   | gain output if no second response is stored in association with the received |
| 5  | message.        |  |
| 1  | 18.             | The simulator of claim 17, wherein sequential responses stored in the        |
| 2  | response file   | in association with a common message are sequentially output upon            |
| 3  | successive re   | ceipt of the common message, to simulate a response.                         |

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| 1 | 19.             | The simulator of claim 11, wherein sequential responses stored in the |
|---|-----------------|---|
| 2 | response file i | n association with a common message are sequentially output upon      |
| 3 | successive rec  | eipt of the common message, to simulate a response.                   |

- 20. The simulator of claim 11, wherein the response file is created using a log file of the system.
- 21. An article of manufacture for use in conjunction with a computer, comprising:

a first computer readable code segment for causing a computer to compare a message received from a system to information stored in a response file used to simulate system response, the response file including at least one message, a message marker associated with each message, at least one response associated with each message, and an end-of-response marker associated with each response; and

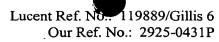
a second computer readable code segment for causing a computer to simulate a response to the system message by outputting a response stored in association with a stored message matching the received message, upon the received message matching a message stored in the response file, wherein upon at least two responses being stored in association with a message, the at least two responses are sequentially output in response to sequential receipt of the message.

- 22. The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the article of manufacture is for use in conjunction with a computer of the system.
- The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the article of
  manufacture is for use in conjunction with a computer separate from but operatively
  connected to the system.
- 1 24. The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the response file 2 includes at least one autonomous response, wherein the second computer readable code

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created using a log file of the system.



| 3 | segment causes the computer to output the autonomous response a predetermined time        |
|---|---|
| 4 | after simulation begins, irrespective of a received message.                              |
| 1 | 25. The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the response file                     |
| 2 | includes at least one autonomous response, wherein the second computer readable code      |
| 3 | segment causes the computer to output the autonomous response periodically,               |
| 4 | irrespective of the received message.   |
| 1 | 26. The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the response file                     |
| 2 | includes at least two different messages, each associated with at least one response.     |
| 1 | 27. The article of manufacture of claim 21, further comprising:                           |
| 2 | a third computer readable code segment for causing the computer to                        |
| 3 | store a record of a received message, wherein upon a message being received a second      |
| 4 | time, either a second response stored in association with the received message is output, |
| 5 | or the first response is again output if no second response is stored in association with |
| 6 | the received message.   |
| 1 | 28. The article of manufacture of claim 27 wherein sequential responses                   |
| 2 | stored in the response file in association with a common message are sequentially         |
| 3 | output upon successive receipt of the common message.                                     |
| 1 | 29. The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein sequential responses                   |
| 2 | stored in the response file in association with a common message are sequentially         |
| 3 | output upon successive receipt of the common message.                                     |

The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein the response file is